

Mind and Body: Descartes and Wittgenstein

This volume contains all of the core material needed for this module. In addition to the text of the first half, there is a selection of offprints that you will be asked to read at certain points. There is also a bibliography: while it is certainly not assumed that you will read everything listed on that, you will probably need to consult particular items on it when working on your essay. Particular suggestions for further reading are given at the end of some of the sections. If you have access to the internet, the *Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy* - at: <http://plato.stanford.edu/> - can be an extremely useful research tool: it provides survey articles on particular themes (some, though not all, of them excellent), and bibliographies.

At various points in the module you will be asked to think about, and make a note of your answers to, particular questions. While these answers do not need to be submitted, articulating your own position on the topics discussed is a crucial part of the work involved in the module; and should be an enormous help in focusing your ideas in the way that will be needed when it comes to writing an essay.

Tutor

I am the tutor for this module. Do contact me if you find yourself in difficulties with any of this material or if you have trouble getting hold of particular pieces of reading. The surest way to contact me is at: Cockburn.david@gmail.com.

Assessment

Assessment for this module is on the basis of an essay of 5000 words. If you have not yet received essay titles please contact me. I recommend, also, that you contact me before starting detailed work on an essay: telling me what you propose to write about and giving me a brief sketch of the ideas that you hope to develop. You are also strongly encouraged, if you are you on one of your first two or three modules in this scheme, to submit at least one draft of your essay to me for comment before submitting the finished version for assessment.

Here is one more general piece of advice on your essay. My own answers to the following essay questions will probably be pretty clear to you once you have worked through the module. It is important that you aim in your essay not simply to reproduce things said in the module. One way to avoid doing this is to select a topic on which you have substantial disagreement with the way in which I approach the issue: some of your work could then be an attempt to show where my argument goes wrong. If your topic is one on which you are generally in agreement with my approach, you should aim to develop the discussion beyond the point at which I leave it. This may require some wider reading; and, in particular, it can be helpful to give particular attention to books or articles that are *opposed* to the view that you will develop: showing how others go wrong can be one of the best ways of showing the merits of your own approach.

I hope you enjoy working on this module.

David Cockburn